CSULA Emeriti Faculty Biography

Name: Leon Schwartz

Department: Modern Languages and Literatures (French section)

Academic rank: Professor (now Emeritus)

Year appointed: 1959

City of residence: Altadena, California

Birth Place: Boston, Massachusetts

Birth Year: 1922 **Marital status**: Married

Spouse or partner's name: Jeanne Schwartz

Family information: Son Eric Alan Schwartz, international law, Paris, France.
Daughter Claire Marie Schwartz-Menyuk, high school teacher of French and Spanish, Silver Spring, Maryland
Five granddaughters and a step-granddaughter.

Colleges or Universities Attended:	**Year**	**Degree**
Providence College	1939-41	
Southwest Texas State (military)	1943	
UCLA	1945-48	BA (French)
University of Paris (Sorbonne and Institut de Phonétique) d'Études Pratiques de Prononciation Française	1948-49	Certificat
University of Southern California 1949 intermittently to 1962	1950	MA
University of Southern California French major and minors in English and Spanish	1962	Ph.D.
Also earned secondary and junior college teaching credentials	1951	

Teaching Experience:

Institution	**From**	**To**
Redlands JHS	1951	1954
Redlands SHS	1954	1959
L.A. State and California State University, Los Angeles	1959	2003
Fresno State College	Summer 1966	
Osher Lifelong Learning Institute	2005	

Courses taught:

- Three ED courses (493FL Methods Teaching Foreign Language in Secondary School, 442-444YZ, Student Teacher Supervision, Practicum).
- Three FR 100-level language courses, four FR 200-level language courses, three FR 300-level language courses, eight FR 400-level literature (Intro to FR lit, Parts 1, 2, Poetry, Age of Enlightenment – aka Prelude to Revolution, Diderot (in English, in French), Comic Fiction – 17^{th}-18^{th} cents., Directed Study).
- Three FR graduate seminars (Comedy – Molière to Beaumarchais, Early Novel, Voltaire-Rousseau).
- One ML (Human Emotions in Literary Expression).

- Two SP 100-level language; one SP 200-level language.

Administrative, Business, or Professional Experience (other than teaching):
Agency or Company

- U.S. Army Air Force, served 1942-1945; commissioned 2nd Lieutenant (B-17 Navigator, 1944-45).
- U.S. Peace Corps language coordinator, Malaysian project, 1965-66.

Awards, Honors, Professional Recognition:

- Outstanding Professor Award, 1975-76.
- Represented the CSU for two terms on the State Liaison Committee for Foreign Language Articulation (1970s-80s).
- Represented California on NDEA Committee on Foreign Language Teaching (New York University, 1965).
- Five honor societies, including Phi Beta Kappa.

Citations of Selected Publications, Presentations and/or Creative Activities:

Books published since dissertation:

- *Diderot and the Jews*, 1981.
- *Poems that Sing by French Masters*, 2008.
- *A Scion of the Times: Leon Schwartz Personal Memoirs and Family Annals* (2 vols.), 2010.
- *Limericks, 'Converbs', and Utter Folly*, 2010.
- Many articles and papers, especially on French Enlightenment, French theatre, French poetry (articles in *The French Review*, *Romance Notes*, etc.).
- Collaborated on *Dictionnaire de Diderot*, 1999, and translation of F. Del Paso's *Noticias del Imperio*, 2009.

University Service:

- Department chair, 1970-73.
- Acting Assistant Dean of Graduate Studies, School of Arts and Letters, Summer 1969.
- Academic Senator, intermittently; later representative of the Emeriti in the Senate (1992-98).
- Served on many department, school, university committees.
- Organized Diderot exhibit for Los Angeles Olympics festivities on our campus.
- Served on committee mounting Emeriti library exhibit for 50th Anniversary of Cal State LA, 1997.
- President of Emeriti Association, 1998-2000.
- Historian-Archivist of Emeriti Association, 2002-10.

Personal commentary:

Jeanne and I have always enjoyed theater and travel, especially travel to France, where her sister and our son live with their families, and Maryland, where our daughter and her family live. Now, not being able to take long trips anymore except in the rarest of circumstances, I've had to pursue other avocations and have allotted a good deal of my time to writing. I am particularly interested in various poetic genres and have written and published some poetry and recently read some of my limericks at two limerick fests (Altadena Ale House and the Secret Rose Theatre in North Hollywood, both in September 2010). I am currently scheduled to read other samples of my poetry at an Altadena Library-sponsored poetry slam in April 2011.

As an aging World War II vet I have literally become a museum piece. There is a permanent 100th Bomb Group exhibit in my name at the 100th BG Memorial Museum in Thorpe Abbotts, England. Also, at the behest of the 100th BG archivist Michael Faley, I donated some of my war photos and letters home for the 100th BG exhibit currently on display at the Palm Springs Air Museum, my account of my and my crew's thirty-five missions (*The 205 Days and 35 Missions of a 100th Bomb Group "Luckye Bastarde** is given in my name on the group's web site (www.100thbg.com), and I am quoted in a DVD entitled *On Eagles' Wings: The American Air Force in World War II* (Independent Studios UK – WWW.ON-EAGLES-WINGS.COM). I still stay in touch with the other two survivors of the crew of Fever Beaver, who live respectively in Fillmore, CA and Magnolia, Texas, as well as with the families of two other crew members who have recently gone to aviator heaven.

Jeanne and I are now about to see two of our five grandchildren married, and we look forward to living long enough to see some great-grandkids.

Finally, I'm still well enough to continue attending our monthly Emeriti Executive Committee meetings and am rewarded by the companionship of these generous, public-spirited colleagues.

Date completed: January 28, 2011.